Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 00546 01 OF 02 192006Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01
ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01
PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAL-01 FEA-01 FRB-03
STR-04 LAB-04 SIL-01 /127 W
----------192033Z 101679 /42
O R 191914Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2808
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2998
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 546

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, EFIS, IC, NO, US, GE, PO, UR
SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JAN 18, 1977: FISHERY DISCUSSIONS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 500, (B) 76 EC BRUSSELS 12303, (C) EC BRUSSELS 137, (D) EC BRUSSELS 445, (E) 76 EC BRUSSELS 12594

1. SUMMARY. DURING THEIR JAN 18 COUNCIL MEETING, THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MADE PROGRESS ON TWO AS YET UNRESOLVED FISHERY ISSUES: CONTROL OF EAST EUROPEAN FISHING IN EC WATERS AND INTERIM CONSERVATION MEASURES. THE MINISTERS ALSO REVIEWED THE STATE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 00546 01 OF 02 192006Z

EC FISHING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES. DISCUSSION OF MEMBER STATE CATCH QUOTAS HAS BEEN DEFERRED UNTIL THE FEB 8 COUNCIL MEETING; BUT THE MINISTERS DID APPROVE CONTINUATION OF THE STATUS QUO ARRANGEMENT ON INTERNAL FISHING APPROVED LAST DEC. END SUMMARY.

2. PROGRESS ON FISHING NEGOTIATIONS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

THE MINISTERS RECEIVED A REPORT FROM EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH ON THE CURRENT STATE OF FISHING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO PERMDEL SOURCES, GUNDELACH INDICATED THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER PROGRESS IN TALKS WITH NORWAY AND ICELAND. HE SAID HE WOULD GO TO REYKJAVID BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY. ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES, GUNDELACH TOLD THE MINISTERS THE US NEGOTIATIONS ARE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT BECASUE MANY OF THE US PROPOSALS ARE INCORPORATED INTO LEGISLATION AND CANNOT POSSIBLY BE MODIFIED BEFORE MARCH 1. HE INTRODUCED AN ELEMENT OF URGENCY, WARNING THAT THE US WOULD NOT BE RESERVING QUOTAS UNLESS AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED OR WRE IMMINENT BY MARCH 1. HE SAID THE EC SHOULD THEREFORE TRY TO OBTAIN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONCESSIONS ON THOSE ISSUES NOT INCORPORATED INTO LEGISLATION, AND SHOULD ACCEPT THE OTHERS, HOWEVER DISAGREEABLE. HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE PLANS TO PRESENT A REPORT, IF NO THE FINAL PROVISIONS FOR AN AGREEMENT, TO THE FEB 8 COUNCIL MEETING, FOLLOWING THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS WITH THE USG.

3. EAST EUROPEAN FISHING

GUNDELACH TOLD THE MINISTERS THAT THE RUSSIANS, POLES AND EAST GERMANS HAD GIVEN NO INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INTO FISHING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC AND HAD MADE NO APPARENT ATTEMPT TO RESTRICT CATCHES IN COMMUNITY WATERS IN LINE WITH THE COUNCIL'S DECISION ON INTERIM CATCH QUOTAS (SEE EC BRUSSELS 500 FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND). ACCORDING TO A COMMISSION SPOKESMAN, GUNDELACH SAID THE EAST EUROPEANS WERE, IN EFFECT, MAKING A MOCKERY OF THE COMMUNITY ON THE FISHING ISSUE. HE WARNED THAT, AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CURRENT FISHING RATES, THE EAST EUROPEANS ARE ALREADY NEAR EXCEEDING THE THREE-MONTH QUOTAS WHICH HAD BEEN ALLOCATED TO THEM BY THE COUNCIL IN DECEMBER (76 EC BRUSSELS 12303). A UK SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT, ACCORDING TO HMG'S BEST INFORMATION, THE EAST EUROPEAN FISHING FLEET BREAKDOWN IN UK WATERS OVER THE PAST 2 1/2 WEEKS HAD BEEN: 40 TO 70 RUSSIAN BOATS, 6 POLISH, AND 8 EAST GERMANS. IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD COMMENTED THAT EAST EUROPEAN OVER-FISHING IS A PROBLEM ONLY IN THE SHALLOW NORTH SEA WATERS AT PRESENT AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN "NO EVIDENCE" OF EXCESSIVE EAST EUROPEAN FISHING IN THE RELATIVELY DEEP IRISH WATERS.

4. THE MINISTERS REACHED QUICK AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE NEED FOR A SYSTEM OF PRIOR LICENSING FOR EAST EUROPEAN (USSR, POLAND, AND GDR) FISHING VESSELS. GUNDELACH WAS INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO COREPER DRAFT COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE UK PRESIDENCY TO THE SOVIET, POLISH, AND EAST GERMAN GOVERNMENTS SETTING DOWN LIMITS ON NUMBERS OF BOATS EACH COUNTRY WOULD BE ALLOWED IN EC WATERS. CROSLAND TOLD REPORTERS HE EXPECTS THE COMMUNICATIONS CAN BE APPROVED BY WRITTEN PROCEDURE BEFORE THE END

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

OF THE WEEK. ACCORDING TO PERMDEL SOURCES, THE EAST EUROPEANS WILL BE ASKED TO SUBMIT LISTS OF DESIGNATED FISHING VESSELS BY FEB 1. IF THEY DO NOT RESPOND BY THAT DATE, THEIR BOATS WILL BE EXCLUDED COMPLETELY FROM EC WATERS. OTHERWISE, ONLY THOSE BOATS DESIGNATED BY THE EAST EUROPEANS, SUBJECT TO THE EC'S NUMERICAL LIMITS, WILL BE PERMITTED TO FISH. CROSLAND'S SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF THE EAST EUROPEANS DOE EXCEED THEIR THREE-MONTH QUOTAS, THE EXCESS CATCHES WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM ANY EVENTUAL ANNUAL QUOTAS.

5. CROSLAND STRESSED AFTER THE COUNCIL THAT THIS WILL BE A COMMUNITY LICENSING SYSTEM, OPERATED ON A PRO TEMPORE BASIS BY THE MEMBER STATES ON BEHALF OF THE EC ONLY BECASUE OF THE COMMUNITY'S (AND THE COMMISSION'S) LIMITED RESOURCES. ACCORDING TO A COUNCIL SOURCE, THE UK DROPPED ITS DEMAND (EC BRUSSELS 137) THAT THIRD COUNTRY CATCH QUOTAS BE SUBDIVIDED ACCORDING TO SEPARATE NATIONAL ZONES IN THE EC "POND". INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBER STATES IN WHOSE 200-MILE ZONES EAST EUROPEAN TRAWLERS ARE FISHING WILL BE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 EC BRU 00546 01 OF 02 192006Z

RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE LICENSING SYSTEM ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY. CROSLAND ADDED THAT THE LICENSING SYSTEM IS AIMED ONLY AT THOSE STATES NOT NEGOTIATING WITH THE EC (SOVIET UNION, POLAND AND GDR) AND WILL NOT REPEAT NOT APPLY, WHILE TALKS ARE GOING ON, TO THOSE STATES WHICH ARE NEGOTIATING WITH THE COMMUNITY. COMMISSION SOURCES STILL EXPECT THAT THE EC WILL APPLY LICENSING SYSTEMS TO THIS SECOND GROUP OF STATES AS PART OF EVENTUAL FISHING AGREEMENTS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 00546 02 OF 02 192019Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01
ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01
PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAL-01 FEA-01 FRB-03
STR-04 LAB-04 SIL-01 /127 W
----------192034Z 101904 /42
O R 191914Z JAN 77

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2809
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2999
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 546

6. THE DECISION IN PRINCIPLE ON A LICENSING SYSTEM STILL LEAVES OPEN THE QUESTION OF OVERALLY REGULATION OF THIRD-COUNTRY FISHING. THE MINISTERS WERE UNABLE TO REACH A DECISION ON THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION ON EXTERNAL FLEET FISHING (EC B47 3) 137). THE UK OPPOSED THE PROPOSAL ON TWO POINTS: (A) THE PROVISION FOR A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE QUOTAS AND RESTRICTIONS ON EXTERNAL FISHING FLEET SIZES; AND (B) THE PROPOSED CONTITIONS FOR NOTIFICATION AND LICENSING (WHICH HMG CONSIDERS TOO DETAILED). UK OBJECTION TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CONCEPT CENTERED UPON ITS MAJORITY VOTE OPERATIONS. HMG INSISTS THAT THE COUNCIL (WHERE THE UK HAS A VETO) RETAIN AUTHORITYOVER QUOTAS AND FLEET SIZES. ACCORDING TO COUNCIL AND PERMDEL SOURCES, GUNDELACH
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 00546 02 OF 02 192019Z

SUGGESTED A COMPROMISE, UNDER WHICH THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WOULD DEAL WITH ROUTINE MATTERS WHILE THE COUNCIL WOULD DEAL WITH POLITICAL ISSUES. AN IRISH PERMDEL SOURCE POINTED OUT TO US THAT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES WORK WELL IN OTHER AREAS OF COMMUNITY COMPETENCE, SUCH AS AGRICULTURE, AND THAT THE UK IS ISOLATED ON THIS POINT. THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN REFERRED BACK TO COREPER AND THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP. WHILE GUNDELACH INTENDS TO REPORT ON PROGRESS ON EXTERNAL FISHING TO THE AGRICULTURE MINISTERS JAN 24-25, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL TAKE UP THE ISSUE AGAIN FEB 8.

7. CONSERVATION MEASURES

THE MINISTERS DISCUSSED A PROPOSAL FROM THE COMMISSION FOR A REGULATION ON FISHERY CONSERVATION MEASURES WHICH, ACCORDING TO A COMMISSIN SPOKESMAN, INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) PROHIBITION OFFISHING WITHIN TWELVE MILES OF COASTLINES BY SHIPS LONGER THAN 85 FEET OR MORE POWERFUL THAN 1000 HP; (B) PROHIBITION OF CATCH TRANS-SHIPMENT FROM SMALLER BOATS TO FACTORY SHIPS; (C) OBLIGATION TO RESPECT NEAFC EQUIPMENT STANDARDS; (D) DETERMINATION OF TRAWLER-FREE ZONES; AND (E) ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIFIC ZONES FOR CONSERVATION OF STOCKS.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

8. IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD ATTACHED THE COMMISSION PROPOSALS AS "TOTALLY INADEQUATE" FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPLENISHING ENDANGERED FISH STOCKS. HIS STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL, WHICH WAS RELEASED TO THE PRESS ON BACKGROUND, CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE ADOPTION OF PRECISE CONSERVATION MEASURES RATHER THAN THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION FOR LATER IMPLEMENTATION. FITZGERALD REPEATED IRISH DEMANDS FOR EXCLUDING VESSELS LARGER THAN 85 FEET FROM WATERS WITHIN 20 MILES OF THE IRISH COAST AND FOR A BAN ON FACTORY SHIPS. HE POINTED, AS WELL, TO THE NEED FOR TEMPORARY BANS ON HERRING FISHING IN SPECIFIC AREAS, SUBSTANTIAL CUTBACKS IN PROPOSED TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES, AND REDUCTION OF PROPOSED EC MEMBER STATE CATCH QUOTAS FOR PARTICULAR SPECIES IN AREASAROUND THE IRISH COAST (THE GOI PROPOSES THAT, FOR THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 EC BRU 00546 02 OF 02 192019Z

PURPOSE, SUCH AREAS BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF THE SUB-ZONES PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THIRD COUNTRY FISHING - EC BRUSSELS 137). ACCORDING TO PERMDEL SOURCES, NO EC STATES OPERATE FACTORY SHIPS IN EC WATERS; BUT THE FRG, WHICH DOES OPERATE THEM ELSEWHERE, FEARS RETALIATION IF THE EC WERE TO EXCLUDE THEM COMPLETELY. THE FRG IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF ITS TRAWLERS WITH FREEZING EQUIPMENT, WHICH ARE NOW DEFINED AS FACTORY SHIPS. AN IRISH PERMDEL SOURCE SAYS THE GOI MIGHT BE MORE FLEXIBLE ON THIS SECOND CATEGORY.

9. FITZGERALD LATER TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE HAD INDICATED THE GOI WOULD BE WILLING TO CINSIDER THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL IF MET HALFWAY ON REDUCED EC MEMBER STATE QUOTAS IN IRISH WATERS AND IF THE EAST EUROPEAN FLEETS WERE RESTRICTED TO FIFTY MILES OFF THE IRISH COAST. (NOTE: THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN EFFECTIVELY EXCLUDED WITHIN THOSE LIMITS - SEE PARA 2, EC BRUSSELS 137.) HE SAID THAT GUNDELACH HAD AGREED TO LOOK AT THESE IRISH REQUESTS, FITZGERALD ADDED THAT THE INTERIM CONSERVATION MEASURES ISSUE HAD NOW BOILED DOWN TO THE GOI WANTING LESS FISHING BY OTHER MEMBER STATES IN IRISH WATERS AND TO THE DANES WANTING MORE OVERALL. HE SAID THAT, APART FROM DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC CONSERVATION MEASURES, THE NINE WERE AGREED ON GENERAL OUTLINES OF A CONSERVATION POLICY; THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD THEREFORE BOW OUT OF CONSERVATION DIS-CUSSIONS AND THE AGRICULTURE MINISTERS WOULD BEGIN DEBATE ON THE ISSUE JAN 24-25.

10. FITZGERALD'S STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL REITERATED THE GOI POSITION THAT TEXCLUSIVE COASTAL BANDS WILL BE REQUIRED UNDER ANY FINAL INTERNAL FISHING ARRANGEMENT. IN THE GOI VIEW, THE SETTING UP OF AN INTERIM INTERNAL REGIME SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE EVENTUAL DECISIONS ON COASTAL BANDS. TO THIS END, THE GOI IS WILLING TO ACCEPT QUOTAS, BUT ONLY ON AN INTERIM BASIS.

11. INTERNAL FISHING

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

IN THE ABSENCE OF FORMAL DISCUSSION OF THE INTERIM INTERNAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 EC BRU 00546 02 OF 02 192019Z

FISHING REGIME, THE MINISTERS APPROVED CONTINUATION THROUGH
FEB 8 OF THE STATUS QUO ARRANGEMENTS APPROVED FOR JAN 1977
DURING THEIR 20 DEC 76, COUNCIL MEETING (EC BRUSSELS 12594).
HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU00546
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770020-0526
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770138/aaaabhcz.tel
Line Count: 290
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cbf1a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 EC BRUSSELS 500, 76 EC BRUSSELS 12303
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3562084
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JAN 18, 1977: FISHERY DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: EFIS, IC, NO, US, GC, PO, UR, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cbf1a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009